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HISTORICAL AND BIOGRAPHICAL RECORDS

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1935

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Charles Henry Barnes 3.

C H A R L E S H E N R Y B A R N E S

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Charles Henry Barnes was born in Kalamazoo, Michigan, September 10, 1869, son of Alexander and Lucy Smith Barnes. Alexander Barnes was born in Lockport, western part of New York state, in 1830. Lucy Smith was born in London, England.

Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Barnes were also the parents of:

Frank, who died in Florida in 1939;

Nettie, who married Edward Morse and they became the parents of
Marguerite, who married Ashley Reams and they became the parents of Lois Anne, and
Donald, who is married and lives in Bay City, Michigan.

Mr. Edward Morse and family reside in Battle Creek, Michigan, and Mr. Ashley Reams and family also reside in that city.

Charles Henry Barnes was educated in the Vine Street and Central High Schools of Kalamazoo.

June 17, 1895, he was married to Elizabeth Jane McCormick, who was born on a farm west of Kalamazoo, Michigan, February 6, 1875, daughter of William and Elizabeth Bradley McCormick, formerly from the

western part of the state of New York. When Elizabeth was twelve years of age the family moved into Kalamazoo where she attended school and was graduated from Central High School in 1894.

Mr. and Mrs. William McCormick were also the parents of:

Charles, who is deceased;

Clara, who married Clyde Parrish, who is deceased - she lives on Arcadia Court in Kalamazoo, Michigan;

Bertha, who married John Shirley, who is deceased - she lives in Kalamazoo;

Katherine, who married Claude Lucy and they reside on Garden Street in Kalamazoo;

Harry, who married Mable Mills and resides at 3314 East Michigan avenue, Comstock.

After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Charles H. Barnes boarded in Kalamazoo for a time. In 1900, they bought the Wood farm of forty acres in Comstock, improved it and sub-divided it into 104 lots, many of which were sold.

On this property was a house, now in 1943, numbered 3314 East Michigan avenue, a cut of which appears on the next page, and in which Mr. and Mrs. Charles Barnes made their home.

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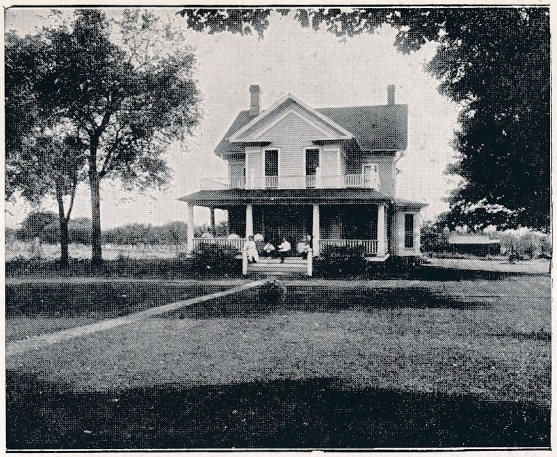

C O M S T O C K M A N O R

3314 East Michigan Avenue Comstock

material for his story "Oak Openings." He visited Comstock Manor, the home of General Horace H. Comstock, built by him in 1832 and later remodelled. Mrs. Comstock was a niece of James Fenimore Cooper and Mott Cooper, another resident of Comstock, was a nephew.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Henry Barnes became the parents of:

Harold Emerson, born September 3, 1897, married June 30, 1923, Betty Joe Watts of Dixon, Illinois, who was a kindergarten teacher in Kalamazoo, and they became the parents of
Stanton, born February 25, 1925,
Charles, born , and
Judith Elizabeth, born -
they reside in Kalamazoo, Michigan;

Helen Ruth, born April 21, 1904, married John T. Jones and they became the parents of Richard, born , and they reside in Detroit, Michigan;

Victor Stanley, born August 24, 1907, married

Hazel Deveraux and they became the parents of Deveraux, born , and they reside in Evanston, Illinois;

Robert O., born May 29, 1915, married Nellie Thornton and they became the parents of Janice, born , and they reside in Mishawaka, Indiana.

Charles H. Barnes got started in the printing business by selling magazine subscriptions, for which he received as a premium a small press, which he installed in his mother's attic. Later he established the Charles H. Barnes & Company printing business at 333 South Burdick street, now occupied by Schensul's Cafeteria.

The business expanded and it became necessary to use more room. Various moves were made. From 1921 to 1929, the firm did business on the second floor of the building on North Burdick street now occupied by the People's Outfitting Company.

The business continued to grow and to get more room the property of The Advocate Publishing Company at 1718 Fulford street was purchased and occupied by The Barnes Printing Company.

In 1921, Harold E. Barnes joined his father in the business and later took over the active management of the organization.

Charles H. Barnes was about five feet, nine inches tall, weighed about 170 pounds and had light

hair and blue eyes.

He travelled much and for twelve years spent his winters in Florida, where he built a home in Fort Lauderdale. In politics, he was a Democrat. For a time he made a hobby of raising thoroughbred poultry and won numerous awards at exhibits in the Middle West and was a past president of the Kalamazoo Poultry Association.

For recreation he enjoyed fishing and playing shuffle-board. He was a member of the Knights of Pythias lodge, the Chamber of Commerce, and was active in commercial and civic affairs of Kalamazoo and Comstock for many years. He was a sergeant in the Kalamazoo Company C, Michigan National Guards.

Mr. Barnes was a member of the People's Church and served for seventeen years as a trustee. He was known for his integrity in business and private life, for his generosity in support of good causes, for his firm stand on his convictions, and for his loyalty and devotion to his family and to his church.

Death came to Mr. Barnes at 10:30 Wednesday night, September 9, 1942. Funeral services were conducted by his pastor, the Reverend Edwin C. Palmer, and burial was in Riverside cemetery. The pallbearers were: David Reed, Floyd Rossit, Otto Ihling,

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E. W. Schultz, Earnest Ludwig and Leon Miller.

The following poem well describes the kind of man Charles Henry Barnes was:

ACHIEVEMENT

By Edgar A. Guest

He learned how little wealth can do
  Beyond the power to charm and cheer;
He valued every man he knew
  From what he gave of service here.
And none so rich some fault could mend
And none too poor to be his friend.

The cares of life he understood.
  He knew the hopes and dreams of men.
He had that gift of brotherhood
  Which deeper runs than brush or pen.
All through the record of his years
No stain of carelessness appears.

He lived each minute to his best
  Nor asked of life an easier way.
What was for other men the test
  He met himself from day to day
And watching fortune mounting high
The simplest favor scorned to buy.

The poor lad who must fight his way
  Has much the easier battle here
Than he, born rich, who wills to stay
  Hands clean, head high and conscience clear;
Who born to wealth and world-wide fame
Adds lustre to his father's name.

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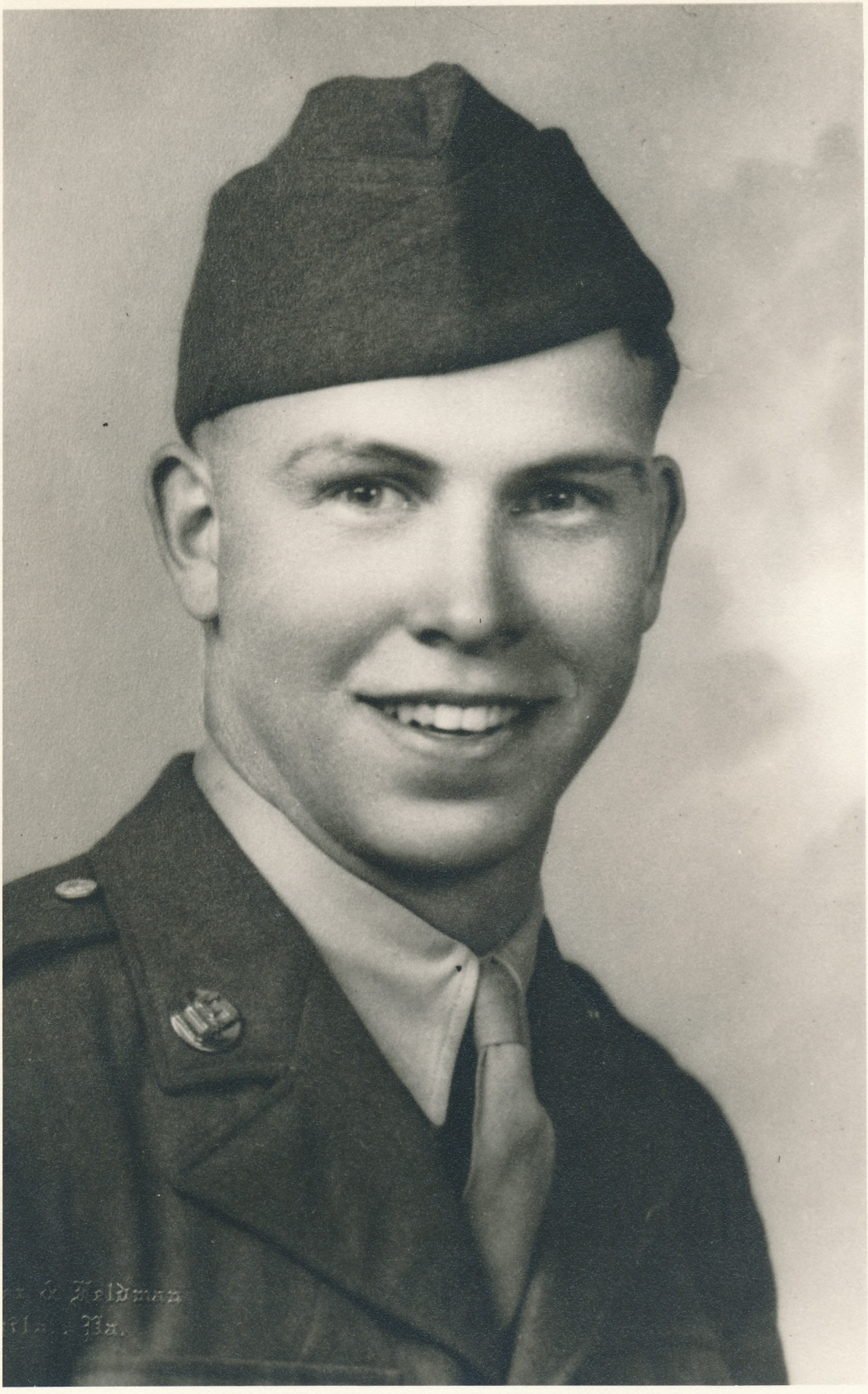
Stanton Keith Barnes



S T A N T O N K E I T H B A R N E S

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Pfc. Stanton Keith Barnes gave his life for his country November 17, 1944, at The Battle of Metz, France.

Stanton was the eldest child of Harold E. and Josephine E. Barnes, 211 West Inkster Avenue, Kalamazoo. He was the brother of Air Cadet Charles Wilson and of Judith Elizabeth. His grandmother, Mrs. Charles H. Barnes, lives in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida.

Stanton's father, Harold Emerson Barnes, a veteran of World War One, is head of The Barnes Printing Company, a graduate of the University of Michigan, a member and Trustee of The First Presbyterian Church, and a member and past President of The Lion's Club, University of Michigan Club, and The Graphic Arts Association of South Western Michigan.

Stanton's mother, formerly Josephine Elizabeth Watts, was born in Dixon, Illinois, August 25, 1900. She was graduated from Dixon High School and from The National College of Education, Evanston, Illinois

STANTON KEITH BARNES

1925 - 1944

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She taught kindergarten in Kalamazoo where she met Mr. Barnes. They were married in 1923.

Stanton Barnes' scholastic record was one which gave his parents and friends the right to expect for him a brilliant future and great contributions to his era. He was graduated from Kalamazoo Central High School in January 1943 with an all "A" record. He received The Bausch and Lomb Award for exceptional work in science. He won a scholarship to Northwestern University. His many extra-curricular activities attest to his versatility. He was president of The High School Band. As an outstanding Clarinetist he attended the Summer School of Music at The University of Michigan. He had leading roles in five major High School plays. He was a member of The Chemo Club, The Movie Club, was president of his homeroom and in the summer of 1941 a delegate to The Wolverine Boy's State at Lansing, Michigan. In 1943 Stanton went to Northwestern University and completed his freshman year there with an all "A" record. He was elected a member of The Honor Society of the University. F. G. Seulberger, Dean of Students, Northwestern University, wrote of Stanton: "He was one of the finest and most intelligent boys with whom we have ever had the pleasure of working. His life, though

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tragically brief, was strikingly successful."

Military Record

Stanton Keith Barnes entered The Armed Services of The United States September 30, 1943. He received four months Basic Infantry Training at Fort Benning, Georgia. He was then assigned as a member of The Army Specialized Training Program unit at The University of Pennsylvania. With the termination of the A. S. T. P. he was transferred to the Indiantown Gap Military Reservation in Pennsylvania, where he trained until he was shipped overseas in August, 1944. He was a member of Company K in the 379th Infantry Regiment with the 95th Division which spearheaded the fighting into Metz as part of the Third Army.

Personal Characteristics

Stanton Keith Barnes was six feet one and one-half inches tall, weighed one hundred seventytwo pounds and had light hair and blue eyes. His unfailing sense of humor and personal modesty made him beloved by all. He was a member of The First Presbyterian Church, whose pastor, The Reverend Paul Silas Heath, conducted his memorial service in the Church at 4 P. M. Sunday, December 17, 1944.

So affected were the people of the community by Stanton's death before he had had an opportunity

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Stanton Keith Barnes, the people of Kalamazoo cherish the hope that you even now know that your contribution to bring about a warless world is appreciated and your memory will be cherished as one who loved his countrymen enough to die that they, and those who come after them, may live their lives in freedom and happiness.

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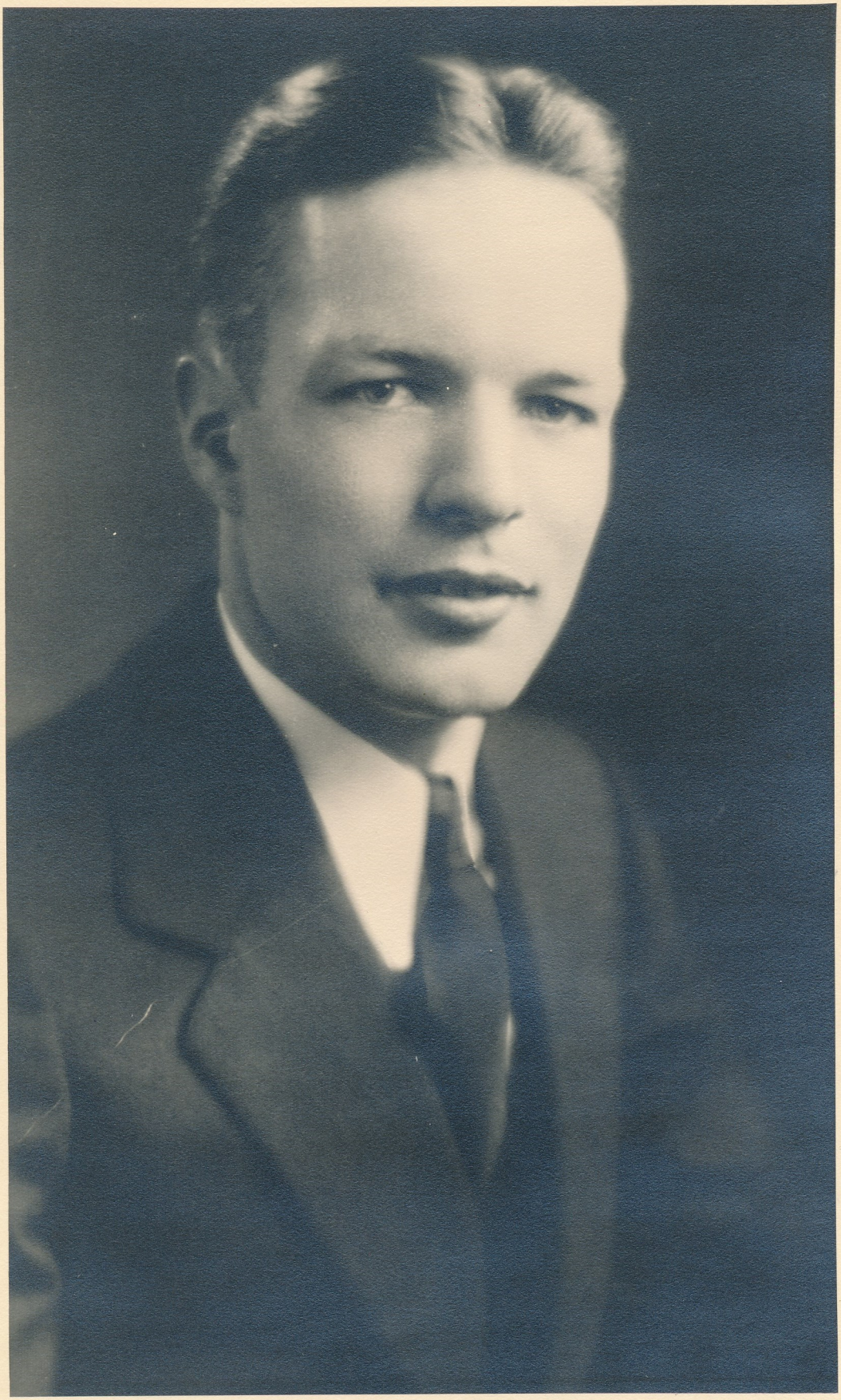
Rev. Richard Barram



R I C H A R D F B A R R A M

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Richard F. Barram was born November 28, 1909, in Aldershot, near Hamilton, Ontario, son of John Garrett and Alice EuNola Barrows Barram, both of whom were born in Ohio of American, English, Welsh and Pennsylvania Dutch ancestry.

Richard had four brothers and one sister: Fay, who married Henry C. Spurgeon and resides in Hamilton, Ontario; Shirley Garrett, married Elsie Wells and resides in Ohio; Robert John, married Lois Purcell and resides in Detroit, Michigan; Edward Tyndall, married Elizabeth Mackay and is a Baptist minister in Massachusetts; and William Norman, unmarried, a student for the ministry residing in Chicago, Illinois.

Richard was raised on a farm, attended a rural school, then entered Delta Collegiate Institute in Hamilton, Ontario, from which he was graduated in 1927.

Richard says he was "raised in the Gospel Tabernacle in Hamilton, now called Philpott Tabernacle, after the splendid preacher by that name."

When Richard was a young lad he was converted in a "Decision Day" service in the Sunday school, Dr. Philpott being the minister. Richard's home was a devout one, his mother a lovely Christian and his father a deacon and a lay preacher, both members, now, of the First Baptist Church in Picton, Ontario.

As far back as Richard can remember the family spent practically all day Sunday at the tabernacle. It was the custom for the farmers' families to bring their baskets and after the morning service repair to the basement and spread the noonday meal on the table. They visited for a time and then attended the Sunday school which was held in the afternoon, after which supper was served from the same capacious baskets. Then the men folk would go back to the farms and care for their stock and hurry back for the evening service, eager to be on time so that not a word would be missed.

Thus Richard Barram's life was wrapped up in the church. For some time it had been on his mind to be a minister, but it was not until 1927 that he definitely yielded himself to be directed of the Lord into whatever field of service he could best be used. That fall he came to the United States and enrolled in the pastor's course in the Moody Bible Institute

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Chicago, Illinois, from which he was graduated in June, 1931. That fall he entered Wheaton College where he spent one year and then worked for a time to replenish his personal treasury, finding employment in St. Louis, Missouri. For a few months he had the great joy of preaching in the First Baptist Church of Picton, Ontario, the first church he ever joined and the home church of his parents.

In 1933, Mr. Barram entered the Northern Baptist Seminary in Chicago, Illinois, and was graduated with the degree of Bachelor of Theology in 1935, after which he received a call to become the pastor of the Bethel Baptist Church in Kalamazoo, Michigan, where he began his ministry June 9, 1935.

August 1, 1934, he was married to Miss Margaret Phelps in Marcy Chapel, Chicago, Illinois. She was born in Fresno, California, daughter of Victor and Zora Young Phelps. She had one brother, Maurice, residing in Seattle, Washington. Mr. and Mrs. Barram first met while he was attending Moody Bible Institute. They became the parents of: Robert Dick, born [redacted]; Douglas Phelps, born April 1, 1938; and Barbara Elizabeth, born [redacted].

Reverend Richard F. Barram attended Kalamazoo

College for two periods and was granted the degree of Bachelor of Arts in 1940.

In 1942, Mr. Barram is serving his seventh year as pastor of the Bethel Baptist Church in Kalamazoo, much beloved by his people and well known and liked by his fellow citizens. He has led his people in the establishment of Sunday schools in outlying communities and missionary interest is high in his church. During the past year the people gave over $3,000 to home and foreign missions.

In personal appearance, Mr. Barram is of medium height and of slight build with brown hair and eyes. He is a born minister and pastor. In no other field would he be content. When he hears of a dying man without a shepherd, this consecrated pastor goes to minister and many homes have been thus blessed by his presence. He knows his Lord and serves Him with all the fervor and adoration of his strong young manhood.

The following is his personal statement:

"Jesus Christ is my Saviour and Lord. Redeeming me from sin, He has put meaning and purpose into life.

"His resurrection is the sign of His absolute authority. The 'empty tomb' makes valid the whole Old Testament, as well as the promises and doctrines of the New. It also confirms the work of redemption wrought on Calvary's cross.

"In Jesus Christ are contained the springs of

life. He imparts eternal life graciously, which is as a fresh spring within one's soul, satisfying perpetually.

"As he knew the sins of the woman at Sychar's well, so He knows mine. Before Him I cannot be a hypocrite; neither can I before others as I live in His fellowship. He knows my sins; I confess them to no other.

"The Sabbath of the Pentateuch finds its fulfillment in Jesus Christ; He is the Sabbath of God. Cessation from physical work typifies the soul's rest in Christ, in the spiritual sense. Law called forth labor; Grace brought rest. As a Christian it is my privilege to experience the 'rest' of Jesus seven days a week, rest that operates under His 'yoke'. Thus my life is not primarily moral, but spiritual.

"The Deity of Jesus Christ stands out clearly throughout the record of His earthly life. Because He called Himself the Son of the Father, the Jews sought to slay Him; such a term made Him 'equal with God'. As the Son, Jesus revealed the Father. Through faith I have partaken of the divine nature.

"In His Messianic consciousness Jesus Christ satisfies my deepest needs and longings. Humbly, sincerely, gratefully, I acknowledge Him to be 'the light of the world', 'the bread of life', 'the good shepherd', 'the way', 'the truth', 'the resurrection and the life', 'my Lord and my God'. My satisfaction shall be perfect and complete, 'when I awake, with thy likeness'." The foregoing was written in 1942.

Ida M. Barrett

I D A M B A R R E T T

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Miss Ida M. Barrett was born in Richland, Michigan, in 1865, daughter of John Mitchell and Lydia Green Barrett and was educated in the public schools of Richland and Kalamazoo, Kalamazoo College and the University of Michigan.

Miss Barrett began her training as a nurse in 1890, in the U. B. A. Hospital, now Blodgett Memorial Hospital, Grand Rapids, Michigan. She was then twenty-one years of age and two years later she was graduated in 1892.

She practiced as a private duty nurse for a short time and then went to New York to take a post graduate course in the New York General Memorial Hospital, after which she returned to Grand Rapids as Superintendent of the Union Benevolent Association Hospital and Principal of the School of Nursing.

During her administration, the hospital developed from an old people's home and hospital to that of a scientific, well equipped, modern institution.

The School of Nursing progressed along with the hospital, and Miss Barrett was always alert to the

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1865 -

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changing trend in nursing education, providing the best of instruction, home surroundings, and a carefully selected student body. She was one of the first to recognize the fact that not only good nursing must be provided, but that women of good education and refinement must be attracted into the nursing schools.

In 1902, when the course of training was increased from two to two and one-half years, the small monetary allowance paid to students was discontinued, and uniforms and text books provided instead. This was considered a very radical step at that time, but the wisdom of it became apparent when increasingly large numbers of better prepared young women applied for entrance to the school. Later the course was extended to require three years.

For years Miss Barrett worked with the Board of Trustees toward better housing conditions for both patients and nurses, and largely through her efforts, Blodgett Memorial Hospital came into being, built in 1916 by Mr. John Wood Blodgett and named in honor of his mother. This building represents to the nurses trained by Miss Barrett her greatest dream realized.

During her entire professional career, Miss Barrett took an outstanding part in all nursing affairs, was one of the charter members of the

Michigan State Nurses Association, served in many capacities on the Board, and was President for three years. She was also prominent in the American Hospital Association and served as Vice President for two years, as well as chairman of many important committees.

High standards, broad sympathies, and an unfailing optimism, were her outstanding qualities. Her many graduates remember her with loyalty and affection. Her great tolerance for human weaknesses and her readiness to help those in trouble have made her countless friends.

In 1920, after twenty-seven years of service, she resigned because of her health. After a vacation in Florida, she was appointed Dean of Women at Rollins College, Winter Park, Florida, which position she held for four years. After a year of European travel, she returned to Grand Rapids and for seven years was manager of a large apartment house. She is now retired and resides in Grand Rapids, Michigan. This was written in 1942.

James Merritt Barrett

James Merritt Barrett

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J A M E S M E R R I T T B A R R E T T

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James Merritt Barrett was born on the farm located on both sides of what is now Michigan highway No. 43, next toward Richland, Michigan, from the farm owned by his grandparents, Hildah and Betsy Barrett. The date of his birth, which he proudly boasted was the same month and day as his mother's, was May 19, 1854.

He was the son of Marvin and Helen Van Dalson Barrett, who were married in Allegan, Michigan, when she was fourteen years of age, her birthday being May 19, 1830. Helen's father, Johannes Van Dalson, was with George Washington when he "Crossed the Delaware" and Helen became the last living true "Daughter of the American Revolution." Her picture hangs in a government hall in Washington, District of Columbia.

When Marvin Barrett was fourteen years of age he carried the United States mail on horseback from Richland to Kalamazoo and Texas Corners and was obliged to ford the Kalamazoo river, as, at that time, there was no bridge. Richland was then

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larger than Kalamazoo.

Marvin and Helen Barrett began housekeeping on the Richland farm and theirs was the first cook stove in that locality. Some time later, after children had come, he brought home a kerosene lamp, the only other one being a possession of the Upjohns. The grandchildren recall that when the lamp was ready to light all the children hid in a closet from fear of an explosion. Marvin Barrett helped with money and labor to build the church in Richland. Helen Barrett died in the Village of Richland May 12, 1929, within a week of her ninety-ninth birthday. Her death was the result of a fall. As a strange coincidence all her brothers and sisters also passed away as the result of falls.

James Merritt Barrett had the following brothers and sisters: (1) Emma, who married Albert Little and now resides in Merrill Home, Kalamazoo, Michigan; (2) Charles L., deceased; (3) William E., living in DesMoines, Iowa; (4) Frank, deceased; (5) George, who resides in South Bend, Indiana.

These six brothers and sisters, of Revolutionary ancestry through both parents, lived in a warm, friendly home of cultural atmosphere. They inherited a love for music from the Barrett side of the

larger than Kalamazoo.

Marvin and Helen Barrett began housekeeping on the Richland farm and theirs was the first cook stove in that locality. Some time later, after children had come, he brought home a kerosene lamp, the only other one being a possession of the Upjohns. The grandchildren recall that when the lamp was ready to light all the children hid in a closet from fear of an explosion. Marvin Barrett helped with money and labor to build the church in Richland. Helen Barrett died in the Village of Richland May 12, 1929, within a week of her ninety-ninth birthday. Her death was the result of a fall. As a strange coincidence all her brothers and sisters also passed away as the result of falls.

James Merritt Barrett had the following brothers and sisters: (1) Emma, who married Albert Little and now resides in Merrill Home, Kalamazoo, Michigan; (2) Charles L., deceased; (3) William R., living in Des Moines, Iowa; (4) Frank, deceased; (5) George, who resides in South Bend, Indiana.

These six brothers and sisters, of Revolutionary ancestry through both parents, lived in a warm, friendly home of cultural atmosphere. They inherited a love for music from the Barrett side of the

house and from their grandmother Betsy Commings Barrett, so much of their pastime was singing. This also applied to the other Barrett families. James and three brothers formed a male quartette and sang often in the First Methodist Church in Kalamazoo as well as in the church at Richland and various social gatherings. James and all his brothers and sisters attended the Gull Prairie Seminary. At an early age he lost his hearing and in later years he was entirely deaf.

James Merritt Barrett was twice married. His first wife was Mary Norton, who died with her new born babe in child birth, leaving two other children, Ward E., who resides in Richland, and George, who was drowned at the age of eleven. His second wife was Mrs. Henrietta Adams, whom he married in 1889.

Mr. Barrett and his first wife began housekeeping in Prairie Ronde township, Kalamazoo county, Michigan, and later moved to Mancelona, Michigan, where he farmed and also worked in a handle factory, and where his first wife died.

Mr. Barrett's second wife was born in Trowbridge, Allegan county, Michigan, April 18, 1856, and named Henrietta by her parents Hiram and Elizabeth Annis. Henrietta's first marriage was to James Adams of

Richland, Michigan, and they became the parents of four daughters. He passed away about 1888. She was married to Mr. Barrett in Kalkaska, Michigan, and became the mother of Ethel Mae June 24, 1891.

From Mancelona the Barretts moved to East Jordan, Michigan, and from there to Benton Harbor, Michigan. When Mr. Barrett's mother became aged and ill James brought his family to live with and care for her in Richland.

On a visit to Otsego, Michigan, Ethel Mae, the only daughter of James Merritt Barrett and Henrietta Annis Adams Barrett, met and later married Robert H. Guidebeck, on September 22, 1908. He was the son of Henry and Louise Guidebeck and was born in Coopersville, Michigan, July 29, 1889. They became the parents of: (1) Meurle May, born September 8, 1909, married (a) Ellis Bird and became the mother of Jack Douglas, born July 15, 1925; Patsy Lou, born June 5, 1927; Philip David, born July 5, 1932; Richard Evelyn, born [redacted]; Allen Wendell, born February 5, 1937; (b) her second marriage was to Oliver Price, who was born October 25, 1901, and the family resides at 1405 Alamo Avenue, Kalamazoo; (2) Helen Elizabeth, second child of the Guidebecks, born August 8, 1911, in Otsego, Michigan, married

Dennis House and became the mother of Barbara Loraine, born August 30, 1927, and Shirley May, born March 2, 1934, and resides at 3404 Lovers Lane, Kalamazoo, Michigan.

September 4, 1918, Ethel Mae Barrett Guidebeck was married to Alfred F. Root, a fireman on the Michigan Central Railroad, son of J. Root and Rhoda Corwin Root. Mr. Alfred F. Root died February 14, 1919. June 4, 1921, his widow was married to William George Adamson in Kalamazoo, Michigan, Dr. Martin Luther Fox, pastor of the First Methodist Church, reading the service. Mr. and Mrs. Adamson have made their home in Kalamazoo since that time.

He was born August 7, 1881, in Thawville, Illinois, and has been employed by the Kalamazoo Vegetable Parchment Company on a paper making machine ever since the mill was started, sleeping in a tent in the early days when the first buildings were erected and the machinery was being installed.

When the mother's home in Richland burned, Mr. and Mrs. James Barrett were invited by their daughter, Mrs. Adamson, to come to Kalamazoo and live with her and her husband, while the house at Richland was rebuilt. Before it was quite completed Mrs. Barrett passed away February 7, 1933. Mr.

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Barrett continued to live with his daughter until he passed away Easter Sunday, March 24, 1940, and was buried in the Richland cemetery beside his father and mother.

James M. Barrett was of medium height and robust build with brown hair and gray eyes. He was a great reader and an expert fisherman, frequently taking the honors for bringing in the largest trout.

In politics he was a Republican. He declared he always voted for the best man, but strange to relate, the best man was always a Republican.

He was of an even disposition and loved his home and family, ever loyal and faithful to them. Being raised in a Christian home with the family altar morning and night, he had a deep respect for religion and faith in it. His favorite hymn was "The Lord Will Not Forget Me" and he relied upon that promise.

The Barrett family has a fine heritage in the stalwart Christian lives of Hildah and Betsy Barrett, the first to come to Michigan, and who raised their large family in the admonition and love of their Lord. This was written in 1942.

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Lydia Green Barrett

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John Mitchell Barrett

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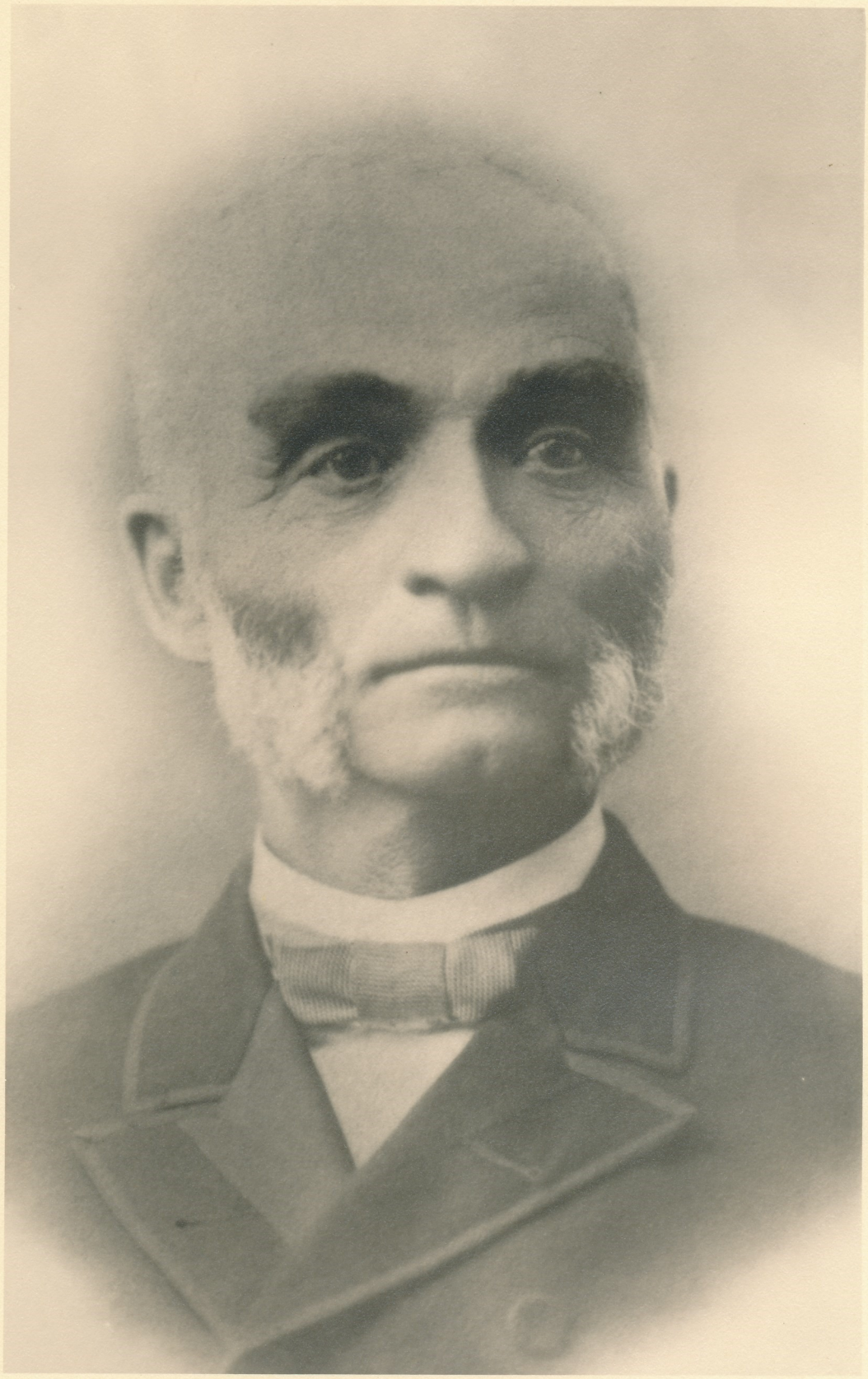

M R . & M R S .

J O H N M I T C H E L L B A R R E T T

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In the Barrett family of New York and since 1832 of Richland, Michigan, one finds the names "Hildah" and "Huldah", the former given to male members and the latter to female members. The early spelling of the family name was "Barritt."

Ebenezer Barret, who died in June 1815, left a will dated March 15, 1815, which, at the time of this writing in 1942, is in possession of one of his great grandchildren. He was the father of three sons and eight daughters and two of the sons married sisters by the name of Commings. His son Hildah Barrett was born in July 1785 and married Elizabeth Hamlin Commings, who was born in September 1790, daughter of William Commings, a lieutenant in the Revolutionary War, who was born October 17, 1743, was married (1) to Rhoda _____ November 10, 1768 - she became the mother of two children and died December 26, 1776; (2) February 18, 1778, to Huldah Barrett, who became mother of eight children, one of whom was Elizabeth,

MR. & MRS.

JOHN MITCHELL BARRETT

1858 - 1907

1851 - 1916

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"Betsy", also the mother of eight children and the wife of Hildah Barrett. The names of these children were: Merritt, born September 4, 1812; Huldah, born May 10, 1814; Ann, born November 26, 1815; Betsy, born August 19, 1817; Marvin, born March 19, 1819; Eliza Jane, born March 6, 1826; John Mitchell, born March 4, 1828; and Wright, born March 28, 1830.

As far as is known all these Barretts and members of the Commings family were born in the state of New York.

In 1830 Hildah Barrett left his home in Broadalbin, New York, without his family, and came to Michigan, where he bought a farm near Jacksonburgh, now Jackson. During the following year he wrote a number of letters to his family, from which the following excerpts are taken:

> November 9, 1830, directed in care of James Valentine, Broadalbin, New York -
>
> "I have this day arrived in good health. The expenses for myself and goods were something short of $12.00 (from home in New York state to Detroit, Michigan). Children be kind to your mother; and go to school as much as possible."
>
> December 28, 1830. "Have written to Benjamin Commings to send the wagon, it is worth $50.00 here. You can come very cheap, except canal expense. Get a plough of John Yates, if possible, and send that or bring it when you come. I have 120 acres on the prairie, very good land, with a stream running across it. Don't be afraid to come here. Get Benjamin

"Betsy", also the mother of eight children and the wife of Hiram Barrett. The names of these children were: Merritt, born September 4, 1812; Hiram, born May 10, 1814; Ann, born November 25, 1815; Betsy, born August 19, 1817; Marvin, born March 19, 1819; Miles Jane, born March 6, 1822; John Mitchell, born March 4, 1828; and Wright, born March 29, 1830.

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December 28, 1830. "Have written to Benjamin Commings to send the wagon, it is worth $60.00 here. You can come very cheap, except canal expense. Get a plough of John Yates, if possible, and send that or bring it when you come. I have 180 acres on the prairie, very good land, with a stream running across it. Don't be afraid to come here. Get Benjamin

Commings (brother) to come with you, if possible."

March 8, 1831, Jacksonburgh, Michigan. "Plenty of honey here, but beans are scarce. Get a barrel and fill it with beans to bring when you come. I will give you a list of things to bring along. Bring them as far as Buffalo. Then address them to someone here besides myself; or, I can send to Detroit, and have someone get them for me. I had $250 when I got here. I bought a farm, 160 acres for $200. I am about eighty miles from Detroit. The land is fit for a plow, much more so than any land in your country. Come well shod. Send a letter eight or ten days before starting. Fill a jug with wine, and one with good brandy, also one with vinegar. The boat waits for one to get milk or whatever needed. Bring along three or four bushels of potatoes, tea and sugar, also some seed corn. I hope you can bring the plough and wagon. Here are some things you will need on the journey - soap, grease, yarn, (for stockings). Take two beds and bedding, for you have to furnish them on the boat. When you get to Buffalo, get provisions to cross the lake, six or eight pounds of crackers and 50¢ worth of ginger bread. (You should have at least $15.00 in change). When you get to Detroit, if you don't see me, ask for the Yankee Boarding House. Put your things in a store-house; and put a letter in the post office telling me where you are. If you go to Florida (New York) first, you can know when the way is passable, better than where you are. If the spring is early, may be you can start by the 20th, or 25th of April. Now Merritt, (son of 19), help your mother all you can and when you get here, you may have the gun. These are my final instructions. You will probably not hear from me again before you start. Do not be afraid of the trip. (At the end of this letter appears the 'Power of Attorney to my wife, Betsy, to transact any or all of my business for six months from this date, dated February 14, 1831."

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The following are excerpts from letters written

by Betsy Barrett in reply to the letters written by her husband, Hildah Barrett:

> April 1831. "Dear Husband,- We are packing up to start within two days. Money is scarce. We have not rented the mill, get $12.00 for the corn. We can't bring the articles you asked for conveniently. We are coming with Mr. Sickels as far as Buffalo. Benjamin Commings cannot come. Meet us on this side of the lake if possible."
>
> April 25, 1831. "We started April 18, got as far as Buffalo, but the lake was frozen over. We are here at expense, until we can cross the lake. We have to buy our wood, and hire a house. It has cost us $35.00. Come to Detroit and wait there for us. Don't know when we can cross. Some say one week, some two, it may be longer."

The journey to Buffalo, New York, was by the Erie Canal, which was first in use in 1825, and was 350 miles in length. It reduced freight rates from $100 a ton to $3.00 and shortened the time from twenty to ten days. Until 1871 the freight was drawn by horses. After that date the boats were propelled by steam until electricity came into use.

In due time Betsy Barrett and her eight children boarded the boat at Buffalo with their blankets and food for the family for the trip to Detroit, where they were met by her husband with his ox team and wagon, into which was loaded the family, their clothing, bedding and supplies, and a much prized chest of drawers, which was referred to as

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"the chist." For about one year the family lived in Jackson county and in 1832 moved to Richland, Michigan, where they purchased the farm on a part of which is now located the nursery owned by C. W. Maxson. The house which they erected still stands on the knoll just south of the nursery and there the parents resided the remainder of their lives. Friendly Indians were welcomed and on cold winter mornings were often found in the kitchen where they had slept near the fire during the night. Hildah Barrett died April 5, 1861, and Betsy died August 27, 1867. Both were buried in the Richland cemetery.

Merritt Barrett bought a farm a short distance toward Kalamazoo from his father's on what is now Michigan highway No. 43 and it remains in possession of members of the Barrett family. The location was known as an "Oak Opening" and the farm bears the name of "Oakland."

All the children of Hildah Barrett attended the Gull Prairie Seminary at Richland, an outstanding educational institution which was frequently referred to as a "Normal School" because of the number of teachers who received their training there. Students came from all around Kalamazoo county and from much greater distances. At the age of fourteen Marvin

carried the mail. One of the teachers in the Gull Prairie Seminary at this time was Julius Caesar Burrows, who later was elected and served as a member of the United States Senate.

Wright Barrett, the youngest son of Hildah and Betsy Barrett, after attending Gull Prairie Seminary, continued his education in Olivet and Albion Colleges. In 1862 he was married to Alice Upjohn, a daughter of Dr. Uriah Upjohn of Richland, Michigan. She had planned to be a teacher and attended the State Normal School at Ypsilanti, Michigan, to prepare for that work.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs Barrett went to Evanston, Illinois, where they resided for five years, two of which he spent in Northwestern University and three years in Garrett Biblical Institute. He was graduated from Garrett Biblical Institute in 1868 and was chosen valedictorian of his class, in which were such men as W. W. Painter, J. Howard Brooks, P. H. Zimmerman, F. R. Strowbridge, C. H. Stocking and Joseph C. Hartzell, the well known Bishop of Africa. Mr. Barrett was a thorough student, especially of Greek and Hebrew.

At that time Northwestern University did not admit women so Mrs. Barrett spent some time in the Women's College to become better qualified as the

wife of a clergyman. He joined the Michigan Annual Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church and they were both greatly beloved.

John Mitchell Barrett, next older than Wright, was married to the village school teacher, Miss Lydia Green of Cooper township, Kalamazoo county, Michigan. She was born in Superior, Michigan, in 1831, daughter of Harvey and Hettie Peterson Green, who left New England for Michigan and purchased a farm in Cooper township, where he died at the age of thirty-six, leaving nine children, namely, Owen, Orrin, Myron, Warren, Hettie, Lydia, Olive, Victoria and Maria, all now deceased. Of Owen's children, Mrs. A. Boerman and Mrs. Myron Waldorf are now residing at 819 Boerman Court, Kalamazoo, Michigan. Hettie has a daughter living in Saginaw, Michigan, the wife of George Miller.

Lydia Green was a bright student and prepared herself to become a teacher, receiving a certificate signed by the Reverend Milton Bradley and William H. King. This certificate is the cherished possession of her daughter, Miss Ida Barrett of Grand Rapids, Michigan.

Mr. and Mrs. John Mitchell Barrett began housekeeping on a farm near Richland, where with hard work

they established themselves as prosperous farmers and acquired other farms. They became the parents of:

(1) Mary Lydia, born in 1854, unmarried, died in 1901;

(2) Arthur John, who was born in 1856 and died with a heart attack in 1919 and was the father of (a) Berenice, who married Henry Sheldon, a general in the First World War, one of three American generals wounded in that war and died soon after returning to this country; (b) Lieutenant Colonel Laurence J. Barrett, an officer in the First and Second World Wars and a teacher in Johns Hopkins University;

(3) Ida M. Barrett, born January 25, 1865, whose story appears in this Historical Directory;

(4) Edward Gould, born in 1868, was killed in an auto accident in Annapolis, Maryland, January 8, 1918, and was the father of (a) Mildred, who married Reginald Jones and lives in Annapolis, Maryland; (b) Christine, who married Herman Thomas Krol, a naval officer in the Second World War;

(5) Carman Morse, born in 1869, was killed in an auto accident in Saginaw, Michigan, January 8, 1924.

Mr. and Mrs. John Mitchell Barrett became prominent citizens in Richland, educated their children and worked to make better the part of the world in which they lived.

He will long be remembered in Kalamazoo county for his interest in organizing Sunday schools in neighboring communities where there were no religious services of any kind, Howlandsburg being one of these places. He was a familiar figure on the roads,

they established themselves as prosperous farmers and acquired other farms. They became the parents of:

(1) Mary Lydia, born in 1884, unmarried, died in 1901;

(2) Arthur John, who was born in 1886 and died with a heart attack in 1919 and was the father of (a) Veronica, who married Henry Chaldon, a general in the First World War, one of three American generals wounded in that war and died soon after returning to this country; (b) Lieutenant Colonel Lawrence J. Barrett, an officer in the First and Second World Wars and a teacher in Johns Hopkins University;

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riding his sorrel horse to these Sunday schools on the Lord's Day. He was a splendid singer and it was said that he knew where to find every singer in the county. These he would round up and get them to lead the singing in the newly organized Sunday schools. He was an official member of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Richland and a great leader in the community. His home life was a pleasant and happy one for his children and the travelling stranger was welcomed with utmost friendliness. He helped to promote higher education by giving a scholarship to Albion College.

The Barrett family stood for generosity, their hands being open always for all good causes. Their love of humanity was evidenced by their willingness to serve others. Many interesting letters and stories are handed down from generation to generation to keep alive this tradition of the Barretts.

James Henry Barton
Ellen Van Wyck Barton

J A M E S H E N R Y B A R T O N

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James Henry Barton was born August 27, 1857, son of Ellen Smith and Henry Barton of English descent. His birthplace was Watson Township, Allegan County, Michigan, and at the age of four years his father moved the family to the farm one mile north of Otsego and James resided the remainder of his life on that farm and the one adjacent which he acquired before he was married. During his boyhood and young manhood James with his father and brothers cleared the home farm and developed the fields and buildings and secured his education from the rural school.

James Barton was a member of the Masonic lodge in Otsego for twenty-five years and was a past master of that fraternity and was also a member of the Eastern Star. In politics he was a Republican and served as justice of the peace and for twenty-eight years was treasurer of the rural school near his home. At one time he was very active in the Methodist Episcopal Church.

January 5, 1887, James Henry Barton married Emily Bourner of Oshtemo, Michigan, and they were the

parents of ten children: Harry, Leon, Milo, Fred, John, Theodore, Jennie who married Harry Carey, Marian who married Leslie Adsit, Alice who married Eugene Newcomb and Dorothy who married Mark Duffiney. Leon and Fred reside at Munith and all the others reside in or near Otsego, Michigan.

Emily Bourner Barton died November 25, 1931. May 10, 1933, James H. Barton married Ellen Van Wyck of Washington, D. C., who was born in Breedsville, Michigan, December 8, 1861, daughter of Laura A. Braman and Reverend Abram J. Van Wyck, who was at one time pastor of the Otsego Methodist Episcopal Church and a member of the Michigan Annual Conference of that church. Ellen Van Wyck Barton had three sisters, Anna, Cornelia Ann and Emeline, all deceased. She graduated from the Otsego high school, taught the Gates school, the Dennison school and the school in the Lewis district and other rural schools and for four years taught in the Otsego schools. She then attended business college in Oswego, New York, after which she secured a position as stenographer in Chicago in 1892-3, after which for nine years she was with R. G. Dun & Co., Grand Rapids, Michigan. She was then a public stenographer for fifteen years after which she was in Los Angeles, California, for

three years, where she took the civil service examination and was given a government position in Washington, D. C., from 1918 until her marriage in 1933.

James Henry Barton died January 11, 1937. The funeral was conducted by the Reverend Irving W. Minor and burial was in Mountain Home cemetery, Otsego, the Masonic service being used at the grave.

Mr. Barton was of a keen mind, industrious and trustworthy. He was a man of exemplary habits, a kind husband and a loving father. He was honest, sincere and true to his convictions and a good neighbor. To public and private life he brought an integrity that was never questioned. All who knew Mr. Barton in the years of his boyhood and manhood were proud to call him friend.

Written February 13, 1937.

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Written February 13, 1937.

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Ernest Batterson

E R N E S T S T A R R B A T T E R S O N

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Ernest Starr Batterson, outstanding architect in Kalamazoo and throughout Michigan, was born in Battle Creek, Michigan, November 22, 1885, son of Caleb and Eva DeMott Batterson of Irish and French descent. He had three sisters, Mrs. Harry Gottschalk and Mrs. Marian Van Hoosier of Quincy, Michigan, and Mrs. Lewis Lampman of Coldwater, Michigan; four brothers, Manley, Murel, Leonard and Clarence, all of Coldwater, Michigan.

While Ernest was yet but a boy the family moved to Coldwater, Michigan, where he attended school and resided until he was about nineteen years of age, when in 1904, he came to Kalamazoo.

Ernest's father was a carpenter and the father and son worked together and Ernest took a correspondence course with the International Correspondence School of Architecture and earned a diploma before coming to Kalamazoo, where he worked for Albert E. Rose, a prominent architect, for about one year and then was employed for thirteen years by Mr. R. A. LeRoy as an architect. During the first World War

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he was Superintendent of Construction at Camp Custer under the Federal Government and had charge of the construction of the buildings there, until the close of the War.

Mr. Batterson then decided to go into business for himself and opened an office in room 403 in the Hanselman building, where he worked for about five years. In 1924 he built the property at 901 South Westnedge Avenue, including the office in which he worked the remainder of his life.

Mr. Batterson was the architect for many school buildings: the one on South Westnedge, the Woodrow Wilson, the Brucker school, and school buildings in Comstock, Traverse City, Zeeland and Paw Paw. His work at Paw Paw brought him wide recognition when a group of German educational authorities touring the United States selected that building as the outstanding American school in function and efficiency.

He was also the architect who designed the First Methodist Church building and the Baptist Church house and the Douglas Community Center. He also designed the educational unit of the First Methodist Church in Coldwater, Michigan, and the First State Savings Bank of Otsego, Michigan.

During his later years he was consulting archi-

tect for the state of Michigan, especially in connection with the department of fisheries where he had charge of buildings and developments for hatcheries throughout the state.

July 29, 1908, he was married to Alice Gertrude Warford, who was born in Coldwater, Michigan, November 6, 1883, daughter of Holcomb W. and Harriet Forsyth Warford of Scotch and English descent.

Mr. and Mrs. Batterson became the parents of: Ernest W., born February 22, 1910, married Marjorie Triquet and became the father of Julia Ann, born [redacted], and Mary Lynn, born July 17, 1938, and resides in Kalamazoo; Paul Theodore, born November 11, 1914, died November 22, 1914; Miles, born June 12, 1922, resides with his mother.

Mr. Batterson had many interests. He belonged to the Masonic lodge No. 22, F. and A. M., a Knights Templar at one time, a member of the Torch club, a charter member of the Exchange club and a life-long Democrat. He was a charter member of the Michigan Society of Architects; president of the Southwestern Michigan Association of Architects; chairman of the Planning Commission of Kalamazoo in charge of zoning and a member of the Michigan State Planning Commission. He was highly respected as a citizen and greatly esteemed by his many friends.

When Mr. Batterson first came to Kalamazoo he joined the First Methodist Church under the pastorate of the Reverend Arba Martin.

In personal appearance he was about five feet four inches tall and weighed about one hundred and fifty-five pounds and had dark hair and brown eyes. He was fond of fishing and was much interested in boats. He was very clever with his hands and enjoyed wood working.

Death came to Mr. Batterson December 28, 1941. The funeral was conducted by the Reverend William C. Perdew and burial was in Oak Grove cemetery, Coldwater, Michigan.

Cargill Leo Beach

C A R G I L L L E O B E A C H

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Lieutenant Cargill Leo Beach lost his life March 16, 1945, when the P-47 bomber in which he was a passenger crashed into a mountain during a very severe storm. Three other men lost their lives at the same time. They were on flight from March Field to Bakersfield, California. The bodies were found the last of September, 1945, and Cargill's was returned to Kalamazoo, Michigan, for burial in Mt. Ever Rest.

Birth and Education

Cargill Leo Beach was born in Kalamazoo, Michigan, August 4, 1920, a son of Elmer T. Beach, whose ancestors were English, Scotch and Irish. Cargill's mother was Laura Cargill Beach of Scotch-Irish and German-Swiss descent.

Hugh Elbert Beach, Cargill's oldest brother, was born March 7, 1907, married Katharine R. Land, served in the South Pacific in World War II and resides now, 1946, at 634 Trimble avenue, Kalamazoo, Michigan.

Harold Elmer, another brother, born January 18, 1909, married Rosa E. Allen and they became the parents of Laura Louise, Beverly Belle and Karen Marie. They reside at 2130 Clifton avenue, Kalamazoo.

CARGILL LEO BEACH

1920 - 1945

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Harold Elmer, another brother, born January 18, 1909, married Rosa E. Allen and they became the parents of Laura Louise, Beverly Belle and Karen Marie. They reside at 2130 Clifton avenue, Kalamazoo.

Paul Eugene, another of Cargill's brothers, was born April 24, 1912, married Frances E. Lillis and served in the United States Navy; resides on Huntington Rd., Kalamazoo.

Jerome J., another brother, was born September 15, 1913, and was killed in a traffic accident July 18, 1933.

Cargill started in at the Roosevelt School in Kalamazoo, Michigan, in September, 1925, and was graduated from Central High School in 1938.

After graduation he found employment as a press operator with the Lambooy Label and Wrapper Company for two years.

Military Experience

He joined the Michigan National Guard November 3, 1938, enlisting in Company C, 126th Infantry, and was honorably discharged October 2, 1940. On October 3, 1940, he enlisted in Company C, 126th Infantry and was inducted into the Federal Service October 15, 1940. He was honorably discharged from the Federal Service December 3, 1941, to enlist in the Regular Army Air Corps. His grade on August 8, 1940, was Private First Class.

After his graduation from High School Cargill attended a Citizens Military Training Camp. In 1939 he went with the National Guard to Grayling, Michigan, and in 1940 with the National Guard to Camp McCoy, Wisconsin. October 20, 1940, he went with

Company C, 126th Infantry, 32nd Division, to Camp Beauregard, Louisiana, for maneuvers, and then to Camp Livingston. He had been made a Corporal and at Camp Livingston he was promoted to Sergeant of a machine gun squad.

December 3, 1941, just four days before Japan attacked Pearl Harbor, Cargill and Robert Grace transferred to the Air Corps unassigned. This reduced Cargill's rank back to Private. He was sent to Keesler Field, Mississippi, and then to Miami Beach, Florida, as one of the camp personnel for training officers in the athletic department. While at Miami Beach he was again made a Sergeant and given an appointment for pilot training in October 1942. Later he was sent to Santa Ana, California, for pre-flight training.

At Fort Stockton, Texas, he received primary and then took his basic training at Pecos, Texas. He received advanced training at Luke Field, Arizona, where he was graduated and received his wings August 31, 1943. He was then sent to Portland, Oregon, for further training. He remained there until December 1943 and was then returned to Santa Ana, California, and shipped overseas to Guadalcanal, where he served with the 339th Fighter Squadron of the 13th Air Corps as a pilot of a P-38 plane.

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On the 28th of February, 1944, Cargill's plane caught fire and he made an emergency landing and was burned and had two vertabrae broken. He was returned to California for hospitalization. He was discharged from the hospital in August and returned to duty at March Field, California. While there he flew the P-63 fighter plane. For one month during December 1944 and January 1945, he ferried planes from Romulus, Michigan, after which he returned to March Field and served until his death, which occurred March 16, 1945, but the official declaration of his death was not made until May 1, 1945.

The body was returned to Kalamazoo, Michigan, and funeral services were held in the Truesdale Chapel, the Reverend Le Roy Whitney officiating and Joseph B. Westnedge Post No. 36 of the American Legion in charge.

The following is an excerpt from a letter written by a chaplain:

> "I accompanied the rescue party into the mountains above Mona Lake to recover the bodies. It was quite evident that they had not much warning before they crashed into the peak. We found your son about a hundred yards from the plane, his hand still gripped on the rip-cord handle of his parachute, which he never had the chance to use, for though the altimeter read ten thousand the peak was well over eleven thousand."

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The following is an excerpt from a letter written by Ira C. Eaker, Lieutenant General, U. S. Army, Deputy Commander, Army Air Forces:

> "We of the Army Air Forces realize what the passing of Lieutenant Beach means to you, and we share your sorrow because his death represents a distinct loss to us. He applied himself seriously to the courses of pilot instruction and graduated at Luke Field, enjoying an enviable reputation for being cooperative and extremely conscientious. His military reputation is distinguished by a most commendable performance of duties, and I hope your pride in the accomplishments of this fine officer will always afford you comfort."

His mother also received the following citation:

"In Grateful Memory of

Second Lieutenant Cargill L. Beach

Who Died In The Service of His Country

In The American Area, May 1, 1945.

He Stands in the Unbroken Line of Patriots
Who Have Dared To Die

That Freedom Might Live and Grow, and Increase
Its Blessings.

Freedom Lives, and Through It He Lives
In a Way That Humbles Most Men.

HARRY S. TRUMAN
President of The United States of
America.

Personal Characteristics

Cargill Leo Beach was five feet ten inches tall and weighed about one hundred fifty-five pounds. He had light brown hair and gray blue eyes.

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As a lad he belonged to the Boy Scouts and hiked to Long Lake and won the Red Cross swimming badge. Radio was a hobby with him. He attended a radio school and had a licensed amateur station issued from Washington, District of Columbia.

He was a motor cycle enthusiast and came to Kalamazoo twice from Louisiana on a motor cycle. He attended the East Main Methodist Church and Sunday school.

Another of Kalamazoo's fine young men made the supreme sacrifice to maintain freedom on the earth and extend its blessings around the world. His radiant, worthy life, symbolized by the gold star, lights the path toward the goal of a warless world. Those who live must follow in his train.

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Elmer Taylor Beach

E L M E R T A Y L O R B E A C H

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Elmer Taylor Beach was born in Caseville, Wisconsin, December 10, 1866, and journeyed with his parents in a covered wagon caravan to Kansas at an early age. He came to Oceana county, Michigan, in 1882, and resided on a farm near Crystal Valley.

Mr. Beach attended Ferris Institute and taught ten years in the Oceana county schools. In 1899 he completed a commercial course at the Institute which was interrupted by his service in Company A, 34th Michigan Infantry, in the Spanish-American War.

Upon graduation he was employed with the Marble Arms Company, Gladstone, Michigan until 1906, when he came to Kalamazoo, Michigan, to enter the employ of the Shakespeare Company. He later was credit manager for ten years for Ihling Brothers and Everard until ill health forced his retirement.

On June 22, 1905, Mr. Beach was married to

Miss Laura Cargill, at Hart, Michigan. They became the parents of:

Hugh, who was born March 7, 1907, and resides with his mother;

Harold, born January 18, 1909, married Rosa Allen of Kalamazoo, became the father of Laura and Beverly and resides in Mattawan, Michigan;

Paul, who was born April 24, 1912, married Frances Lillis and resides in Kalamazoo;

Jerome, who was born September 15, 1913, and was killed in a collision July 18, 1933;

Cargill, who was born August 4, 1920, and at the time of this writing in 1941, is a soldier in Company C, 126th Infantry, in the 32nd Division in Camp Livingstone.

Mrs. Laura Cargill Beach is the daughter of James and Loretta Whisler Cargill and was educated in Ferris Institute and Valparaiso Normal School and taught school for six years in Oceana county.

Elmer Taylor Beach was a member of the Richard Westnedge Camp No. 16 and was a past commander of the camp. He was also a member of the Military Order of the Serpent. He attended the East Avenue Methodist Church of which Mrs. Beach is a member and he was active in the brotherhood. In politics he was independent. He was well-read, enjoyed fishing and made a hobby of gardening and bee-keeping. In 1923, he published

the genealogy of the Beach family, entitled "The Beaches in America."

Mr. Beach was a well-known and highly respected accountant and business man in Kalamazoo. Death came to him at nine o'clock Sunday morning, October 21, 1940. The funeral was conducted by the Reverend L. M. Whitney and burial was in Mount EverRest cemetery under the auspices of the Richard Westnedge camp.

Morris Nevins Beattie

M O R S E N E V I N S B E A T T I E

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Morse Nevins Beattie was born in Orangeville, Barry County, Michigan, May 10, 1892, son of Mary O. Nevins and William H. Beattie of British descent. Mary O. Nevins was the daughter of Augusta McCray of Tecumseh, Michigan, and Jacob Nevins, born in Braintree, New Hampshire, September 8, 1866.

William H. Beattie and Mary O. Nevins were married February 20, 1886. Morse Beattie had the following brothers and sisters:

Elsie, born August 8, 1887, married Walter Burt, resides in Martin, Michigan;

Frank, born December 4, 1889, married Alene Walker, resides in Oakwood;

Ralph, born January 17, 1895, married Inez Davis, resides in Kalamazoo;

Marie, born April 25, 1897, reides in Kalamazoo;

Wilma, born October 30, 1899, married Albert Davis, resides in Kalamazoo;

Hale, born December 8, 1901, married Ruth Bedford, resides in Kalamazoo;

Doris, born July 15, 1904, married Walter Van Welden, resides in Kalamazoo;

Norma, born September 5, 1907, resides in Kalamazoo.

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Morse N. Beattie was reared in Orangeville and attended school there. At about the age of eighteen he went to Kalamazoo and worked for a time in a factory. He then entered the employ of Frank Maus, Sr., in a drug store. Later he worked as a stone mason and during the last two years of his life he operated a lathe for the Fuller Manufacturing Company.

August 2, 1919, Morse N. Beattie married Mildred Spriggs of South Bend, Indiana. For a few years after their marriage they resided in South Bend and Mr. Beattie worked in a wholesale house.

Mr. Beattie enlisted as a private in the sanitary detachment, 126th Infantry, 32nd Division, June 3, 1917, and after service at Grayling and Waco was overseas at Alsace, Aisne-Marne and Soissons. He was also with the army of occupation and was mustered out at Camp Custer May 23, 1919.

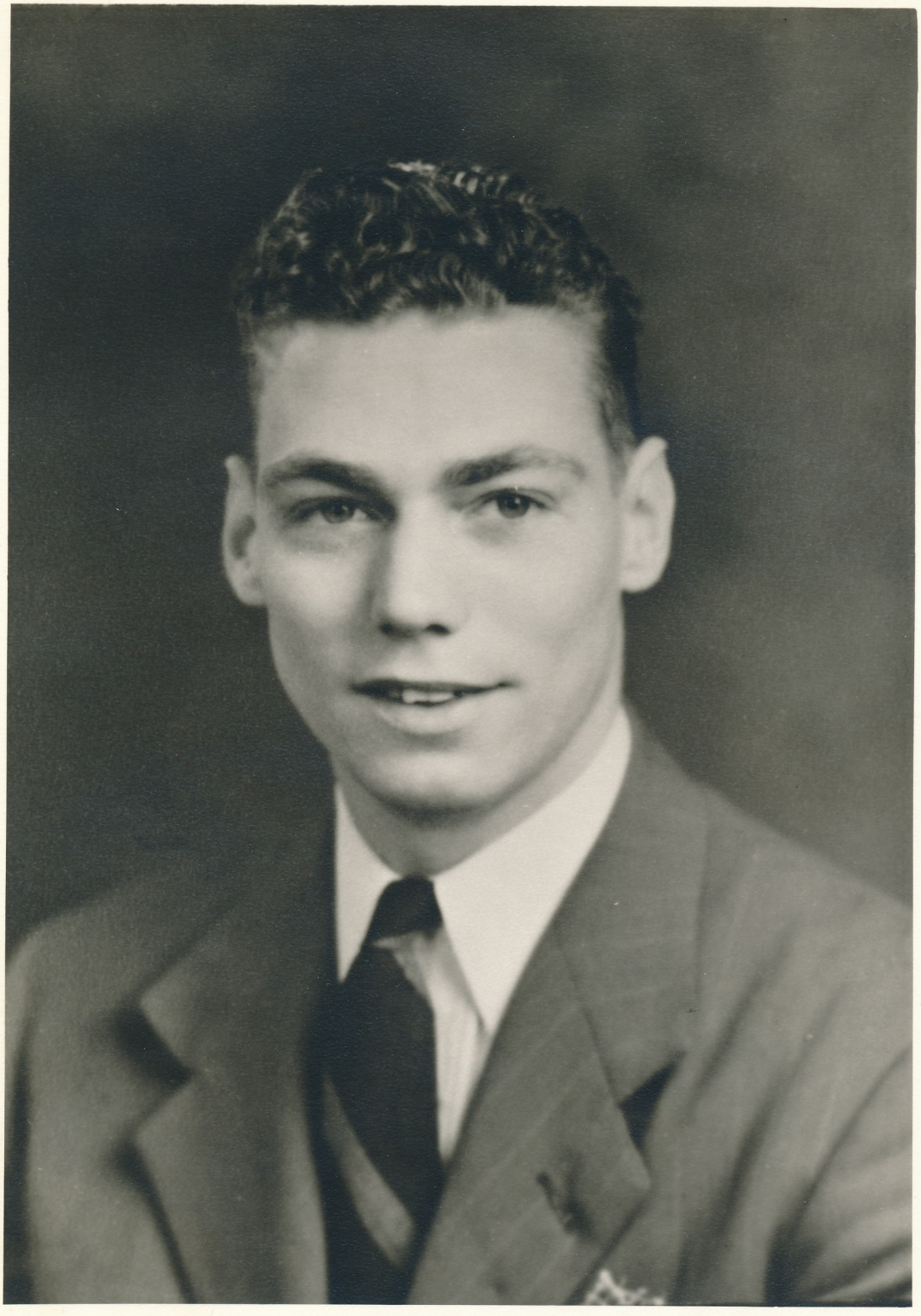
The following is a copy of citation: (Army Serial No. 180811) Private 1st Class Sanitary Detachment, 126th Infantry. For extraordinary heroism in action near Clerges, France, July 31, 1918, voluntarily leaving shelter, he crossed an open field, subjected to heavy machine gun and artillery fire, to give first aid to two wounded

soldiers. His heroic action saved the lives of the wounded men. On April 19, 1919, Morse Nevins Beattie received the Distinguished Service Cross.

Mr. Beattie was a great reader and was of a studious nature. Death came to him February 7, 1937. Burial was in Riverside cemetery.

Written April 14, 1937.

Elmer Walter Beck



E L M E R W A L T E R B E C K

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Technical Sergeant Elmer Walter Beck was reported missing in action in the South Pacific January 21, 1944, and was officially determined dead as of April 10, 1945.

He enlisted May 17, 1942, and was sent to Jefferson Barracks for his basic training. October 23, 1942, he was sent in a class of forty-eight radio operators, mechanics, to Scott Field, Illinois, to an air force technical school.

He was then sent to Columbia, South Carolina, where he received his wings and was assigned to a bomber group. The first part of March 1943, he was transferred to San Francisco, California. About this time he was made a Staff Sergeant and just before he was reported missing he was promoted to Technical Sergeant.

Staff Sergeant Elmer Walter Beck left for overseas March 10, 1943, and landed in Australia, where he remained for a short time and then went to New Guinea, where he was reported lost in action.

August 30, 1943, Lieutenant General George

ELMER WALTER BECK

1917 - 1945

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Kenney bestowed upon Elmer in New Guinea the Air Medal and at about the same time the Distinguished Flying Cross and his mother went to Selfridge Field, Michigan, to receive the Air Medal and Oak Leaf Cluster for her son.

Elmer's Birth and Education

Elmer Walter Beck was born in Marcellus, Michigan, August 15, 1917, son of Willard R. Beck, who had some Scotch ancestry, and Ferne May Gildea Beck of Irish descent. Elmer had a sister, Lucille May, who was born May 12, 1922, and married Carl Emig, who was a Sergeant in Company C, 126th Infantry of the 32nd Division and was honorably discharged.

When Elmer was about one and one-half years old the family moved to Kalamazoo, Michigan, where he attended the Parkwood School through kindergarten and the Oakwood School through the eighth grade. He then went to Central High School in Kalamazoo and was graduated in June 1936. He then spent a winter in Parsons Business College.

From the time he was eight years old he found work delivering the Kalamazoo Gazette, working in grocery stores after school and Saturdays. After graduation he was employed for two years with the Bestervelts and for one year he was the special nigh man with the City Bus Lines. He was then

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employed for two years by the Kalamazoo Vegetable Parchment Company, after which he worked eight months for the American Railway Express Company until he enlisted.

While in service in New Guinea he was a radio-gunner on a B-25 Mitchell bomber of the Fifth Air Force.

Personal Characteristics

Elmer Walter Beck was five feet eleven and one-half inches tall and weighed about one hundred fifty pounds. He had light brown hair and blue eyes.

He enjoyed making model airplanes, playing golf and swimming. As a Boy Scout he won contests in swimming. He also liked horse-back riding.

In politics he was inclined to be a Republican. He took two years training in music and played the piano. He belonged to a dance club which met on Saturday nights. He was witty, a good conversationalist, and he loved both children and older folk. Elmer attended the Methodist Church in Oakwood and The Trinity Reformed Church in Kalamazoo and was a member of The Young Men's Christian Association.

Memorial services were held at Truesdale's Chapel in Kalamazoo January 21, 1946, the Reverend Arthur A. Lambourne, pastor of The Bethel Baptist Church officiating.

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Lewis Amer Beers

L E W I S A N E R B E E R S

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Lewis Aner Beers was born on a farm in Spring Brook neighborhood, Richland township, Kalamazoo county, Michigan, July 30, 1868, son of Lucy Gray Hoyt, who was born January 18, 1847, in Richland township and lived there all her life and died in 1931, and Nelson Burr Beers, who was born December 3, 1839, and died December 8, 1908, of New England stock.

Lewis Beers' grandfather, Joseph Beers, was born March 11, 1796, and was married to Rebecca Smith, who was born May 3, 1803, on May 29, 1927, and resided in Connecticut. They decided to go west and loaded their household goods on a boat, but had to wait for some money. Before the money could be secured the boat sailed and was never heard from. Joseph and his wife went to Oconto, Wisconsin, in 1846. They had three children, Eli, Joseph and Nelson Burr. They made their home at Green Bay, Wisconsin, for a time and while there the mother, Rebecca, and her two sons, Eli and Joseph, died.

When Nelson Burr Beers was about twenty-five

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years of age he came to Spring Brook with his father and bought the farm near where his son Nelson now, 1940, lives, and where all his children were born. Joseph Beers' father was Phineas Beers, who was married to Mary Cromwell May 5, 1785.

Nelson Burr Beers was married to Lucy Gray Hoyt March 13, 1866. They were the parents of:

Nelson Burr, Jr., born December 23, 1866, married Mary Forby, is the father of Lewis Morley, who resides with his father, and Mildred, who married Victor Clements, and resides near Climax, Michigan;

Ernest B., born December 3, 1869, married Maude Miller and is the father of Frances and resides at Plainwell, Michigan;

Mary D., who died in infancy May 11, 1875;

Frank, born April 21, 1877, and died April 1, 1883;

Lewis Aner, the subject of this writing.

December 8, 1887, Lewis Aner Beers was married to Roseanna Pennock. They were the parents of:

Bernice, who married Harry Snow, deceased, resided with her father and teaches school in Galesburg, Michigan; and is the mother of Robert L. Snow, who married Eileen Jones and resides in Saginaw, Michigan;

Floy, who married Peter Vandelic and resides near Capac, Michigan;

Rice A., who married Mabel Walker, is the father of Betsy Ann, who was born June 8, 1930, and resides at West Lake, south of Kalamazoo, Michigan.

Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Aner Beers began housekeeping where the brother Nelson now lives and were farmers until 1903, when he became rural mail carrier on one of the three rural routes out of Richland. They lived for one year on the farm formerly owned by his father and about 1890 they bought what was then known as the Blanchard farm and lived there until 1903.

When Mr. Beers began carrying mail they lived for a few months in what was then the parsonage of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Then for a short time they lived in another small house until they purchased the present residence at 1836 West street in Richland.

Mrs. Beers died June 1, 1929, following which Mr. Beers' mother kept house for him for about two years. After the death of Harry Snow, the daughter Bernice lived with her father.

After serving thirty years as rural mail carrier, Mr. Beers retired in July 1934. Soon after that he was elected to the village board. In politics he is a Democrat. While serving on the village board he was largely responsible for keeping the sale of liquor out of Richland for two years. He also served as street commissioner for two years.

Mr. Beers at one time belonged to the Maccabees. He was a member of the Masonic lodge and of the Eastern Star.

Mr. Beers' parents were Methodists and Lewis was brought up in that fellowship. With his parents he attended the Spring Brook Methodist Episcopal Church and said that his Sunday school teacher, Essie Ryan, greatly impressed him. He secured his education in the Spring Brook school. Later he became an official member of the Richland Methodist Episcopal Church and served in that capacity until the church was disbanded. He was one fine citizen and was highly respected and loved by his many friends.

Death came to Mr. Beers at 10:30 A. M., Sunday, October 13, 1940, while he was on a visit to the home of his grandson, Robert L. Snow, in Saginaw, Michigan. The funeral service was conducted by the Reverend Robert E. Meader from the Presbyterian Church in Richland and burial was in the Richland cemetery.

Mrs. L. A. Beers

M R S L E W I S A B E E R S

Roseanna Pennock Beers was born on January 16, 1865, in Prairieville Township, and was a life-long resident of Richland and vicinity. She was the daughter of Bailey T., and Caroline Gibson Pennock, pioneers of Richland Township. She was reared on her father's farm and received her early education in the schools of Kalamazoo County, later, studying music in Grand Rapids.

On December 8, 1887, Miss Pennock was married to Mr. Lewis Aner Beers, a son of Nelson B., and Lucy Hoyt Beers, who were also residents of this county. To this home came three children, two daughters and a son. The three children, Mrs. Bernice Snow, Mrs. Peter Vandelic and Rice A. Beers are all residents of this county.

Mrs. Beers was a great lover of music and taught it for many years. She contributed much to the welfare of her home and her community, ever thoughtful of others, and always promoting the higher and nobler aims of life.

She was a member of the Richland Methodist Episcopal Church, and its organist for many years. Until prevented by her long illness, she was active in the work of the Ladies Aid, the W. C. T. U., the Ladies

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Library, and the Richland Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star.

Mrs. Beers loved to entertain, and was a charming hostess, often going beyond her strength to give of herself to the interests of the community she loved so well and served so faithfully.

Her lovely spirit took its flight to the heavenly home, on June 1, 1929. With her music and her kindliness, she had endeared herself to hosts of friends and is greatly missed from the family circle, the church and the community.

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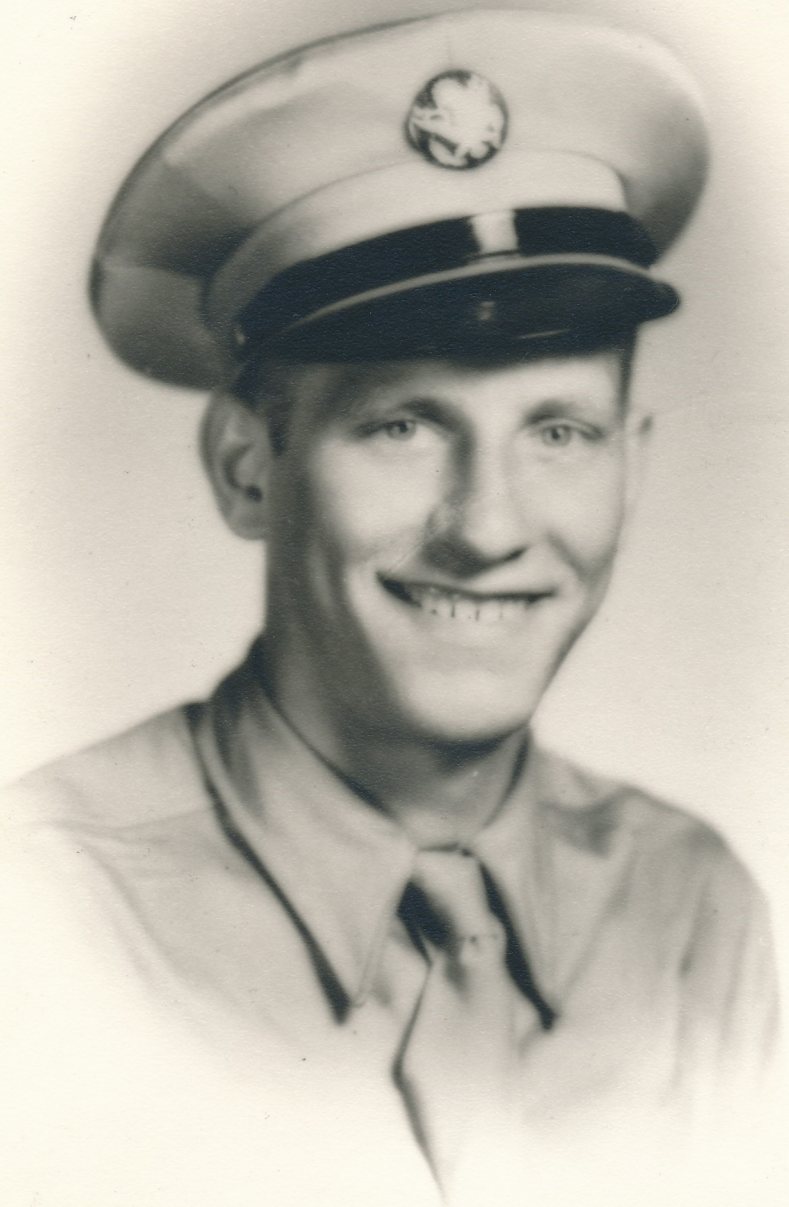
Edwin Frederick Beilby



E D W I N F R E D E R I C K B E I L B Y

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A letter dated May 5, 1945, written by First Lieutenant Therm Tobias, 148th Infantry, Commanding Comapany D, contains the following:

> "Edwin was killed 17 April 1945 about 1100 A. M. while his platoon was attacking an enemy strongpoint at Yagyagan, Luzon, P. I. on the road to Baguio. While operating his mortar, Edwin was hit in the head and body by enemy shell fragments. He died instantly without pain or suffering.
>
> "During the two years in which he was a member of the company, he always performed his duties willingly and in a superior manner. His traits of humor, friendliness, kindness, loyalty and courage made him well liked by all. Edwin was always prompt and thorough in the work assigned him and his cheerful cooperation won for him many friends among his associates."

Edwin's body was buried in a beautiful United States Army cemetery, Santa Barbara No. 1, Philippine Islands, row 67, grave 3542.

A memorial service was held for Private First Class Edwin Frederick Beilby June 24, 1945, at 2:30 P. M., with the American Legion in charge and the Reverend Richard D. Wearne officiating.

On January 30, 1946, The East Main Methodist Church, where the memorial service was held, dedicated beautiful chimes which had been installed

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in the Church tower by Edwin's parents in memory of their son. The chimes provided a part of the program, Marlyn Lewandoski and William Harris sang solos; Mrs. Margaret Senne, representing Gold Star Mothers, and Lieutanant Colonel Herbert Wilson, a Chaplain from Percy Jones Hospital, representing the service men, made remarks. The pastor, the Reverend Ira E. Carley made remarks and dedicated the chimes.

Birth and Education

Edwin was born in Hammond, Indiana, January 20, 1925, son of Ransom Oscar Beilby, who was born in New York of English and German descent, and Della Henrietta Prang Beilby, who was born in Illinois of German ancestry.

Mr. and Mrs. Ransom Beilby also became the parents of:

Theodore Edwin, born February 21, 1912, married Virginia Rausch and they became the parents of five children and reside in Comstock, Michigan;

Dorothy Henrietta, born March 13, 1914, and resides now, in 1946, with her parents at 428 Phelps avenue, Kalamazoo, Michigan;

Harold Louis, born November 13, 1919, married Genevieve Scoville, has five children and resides in Kalamazoo, Michigan; and

Ralph Orville, born May 7, 1923, married June Lawes and resides in Kalamazoo, Michigan.

All the above children were born in Hammond, Ind.

in the Church tower by Edwin's parents in memory of their son. The chimes provided a part of the program, Marlyn Lewandoski and William Harris sang solos; Mrs. Margaret Senne, representing Gold Star Mothers, and Lieutenant Colonel Herbert Wilson, a Chaplain from Percy Jones Hospital, representing the service men, made remarks. The pastor, the Reverend Ira E. Carley made remarks and dedicated the chimes.

Birth and Education

Edwin was born in Hammond, Indiana, January 20, 1925, son of Ransom Oscar Beilby, who was born in New York of English and German descent, and Della Henrietta Prang Beilby, who was born in Illinois of German ancestry.

Mr. and Mrs. Ransom Beilby also became the parents of:

Theodore Edwin, born February 21, 1912, married Virginia Rausch and they became the parents of five children and reside in Comstock, Michigan;

Dorothy Henrietta, born March 13, 1914, and resides now, in 1946, with her parents at 428 Phelps avenue, Kalamazoo, Michigan;

Harold Louis, born November 13, 1919, married Genevieve Scoville, has five children and resides in Kalamazoo, Michigan; and

Ralph Orville, born May 7, 1923, married June Lawes and resides in Kalamazoo, Michigan.

All the above children were born in Hammond, Ind.

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While Edwin was yet an infant the family moved to Oshtemo, Michigan, and Edwin started to school at the Boekhout School. When he was seven years old the family moved to Comstock, Michigan, and he attended the school there for five years. When he was twelve years of age the family moved to the present address and Edwin attended the Roosevelt School. He then took up electric welding under the National Youth Administration and later was employed by the Checker Cab Company for five months.

He was drafted for the armed services of the United States March 29, 1943, and left the following April 5, for Camp Grant and was later sent to Camp Wheeler, Georgia, for basic training. He returned home on furlough from July 29 to August 6, 1943, after which he went to Camp Swift, Texas.

September 7, 1943, he left for the South Pacific and he served in Guadalcanal and the Marshall Islands. He left Bougainville about Thanksgiving time in 1944 and landed at Linguayan Gulf January 9, 1945.

Edwin was a member of the 148th Infantry regiment which was engaged for sixteen days in street fighting in Manila and his outfit was instrumental in rescuing prisoners from Manila prisons and Edwin personally released five Roman

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Catholic nuns from prison in Manilla.

The Maas Chimes installed by Edwin's parents in the tower of the East Main Methodist Church and at which Lieutenant Colonel Herbert Wilson officiated, were paid for with money which Edwin had sent home and the chimes were dedicated to the memory of all the boys of Kalamazoo, Michigan, who had given their lives in World War II. The date on which they were dedicated, January 20, 1945, on Sunday, was the twenty-first anniversary of Edwin's birth.

Personal Characteristics

Edwin Frederick Beilby was five feet eleven inches tall and weighed about one hundred forty-five pounds. He had brown hair and blue eyes.

He liked roller skating, swimming and hunting and fishing. He was mechanically minded and made furniture for the home, book cases and other things. He liked to work with tools.

He was awarded the Combat Infantryman's badge and while at Camp Wheeler was awarded an expert marksman's medal.

His parents say that he never caused them a heart ache. He was always kind and loyal. He came home to celebrate his father's birth day and he left money with his mother.

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Excerpts from Letters

Private Joseph Blendowski, who was with the Red Cross, wrote:

"He was one of my closest buddies ever since we met at Camp Wheeler, Georgia.

"I've known him for a long time and we went through a lot together, and believe me, Mrs. Beilby, he was a very good soldier and the friend of everyone."

One of Edwin's buddies, Bill Maisch wrote to Mrs. Beilby:

"Although you think of him as your boy I will refer to him as a man - and he was to the end. . . . he died like a hero and he never suffered."

Chaplain Harold J. Schut wrote:

"Edwin was an integral part of our unit. When men have lived together, and fought together as we have, each man who dies leaves an empty space which no one else can quite fill. Your son has made a real contribution to our lives, which we shall not forget. . . We do know though that the God of great power and love will give you the comfort which will soothe the heartache and take away the feeling of emptiness."

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Edwin was a member of the East Main Methodist Church and attended Sunday school at both Comstock and Kalamazoo.

He was one of Kalamazoo's finest boys.

"Beyond the sunset,
O glad re-union
With our loved ones who've gone before,
In that fair homeland we'll know no parting,
Beyond the sun set forever more."

Blanche Kerr Brock

Myron Herman Bell

M Y R O N H E R M A N B E L L

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Myron Herman Bell was born on a farm in Seneca county, New York, June 14, 1864, son of Henry and Caroline Rogers Bell. Henry Bell, the father, was at one time a school teacher and was a veteran of the Civil War. Myron's brothers and sisters were: Horace Greeley Bell of Waterloo, New York; Hattie, who married George Siegfried, both deceased; G. Pierson Bell, deceased; Ella, who married Russell Pontius of Waterloo, New York; Carrie, who married Louis Hoad of Waterloo, New York; Ernest Henry Bell of Waterloo, New York.

Myron Herman Bell attended the rural school and at the age of thirteen he began to work and support himself. For ten years he taught rural schools and at the age of twenty-eight, in November 1892, he began the jewelry business in the Baumann block in Kalamazoo, and was in the business continuously until his retirement about 1928. For years the Bell jewelry store was on North Burdick street where the Dewing building now stands.

Mr. Bell was a prominent member of the state

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jewelers association and served as secretary for several years. He was a life member of the Knights Templar Commandery, the Chapter, Council, Eastern Star and Masonic Lodge No. 22 of Kalamazoo, in addition to the Consistory and Shrine of Grand Rapids. He was a thirty-second degree Mason and at one time was Worshipful Master and was a Past High Priest. He also belonged to the Sons of Veterans. In politics he was a Republican.

In personal appearance Mr. Bell was about five feet, eight and one-half inches, weighed about two hundred pounds, had gray eyes and brown hair. He was kind and friendly and did nice things for his customers. He was a good business man and built up a profitable business in which he took much pleasure.

Mr. Bell was a student. While teaching he spent much time in study. He was especially interested in history and civil government and read much about them. He studied medicine in a Chicago school of medicine and received the degree of Doctor of Medicine but never practiced.

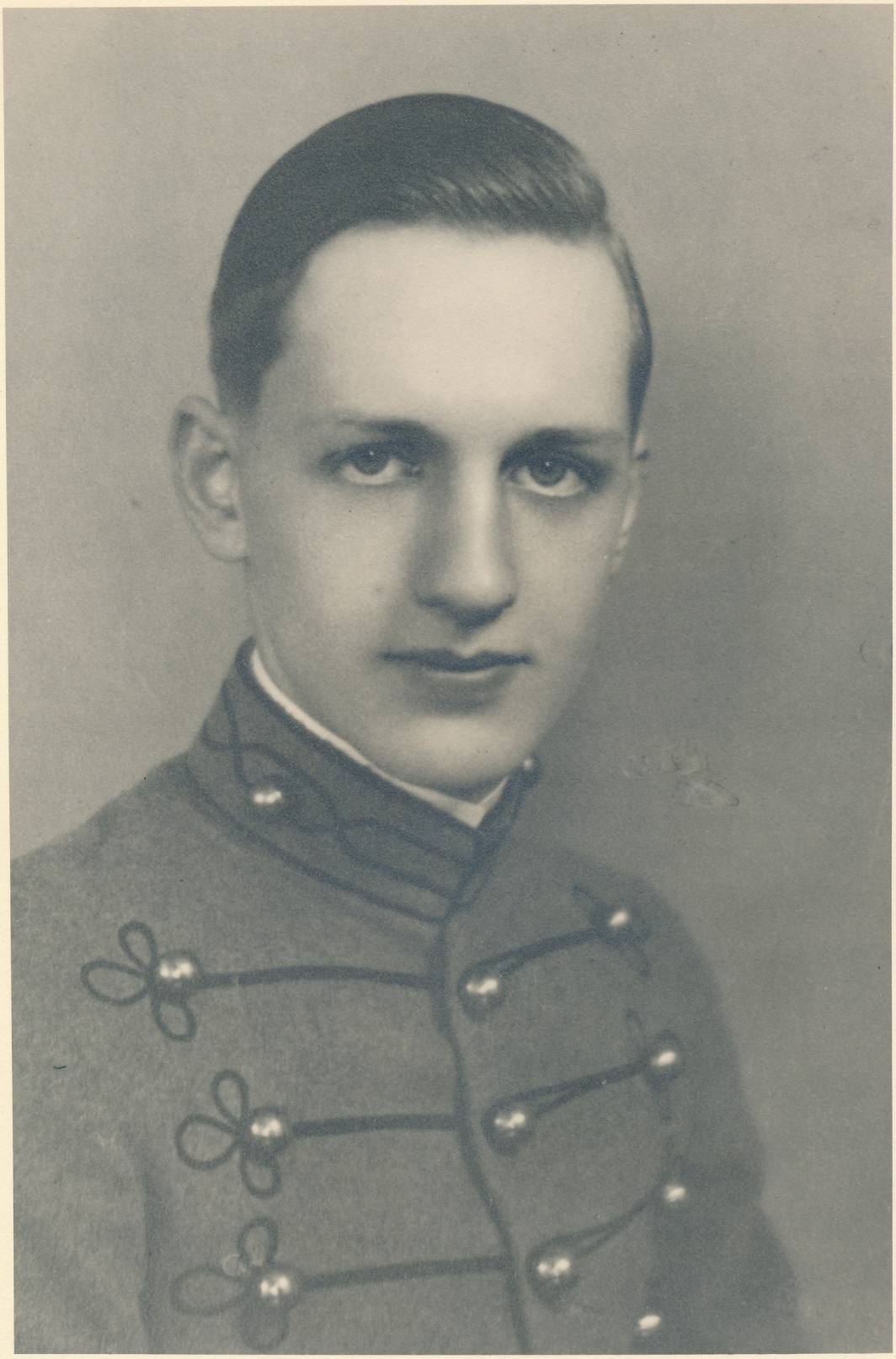
January 23, 1892, Myron Herman Bell was married to Edith Montague Butler, who was born in Oshtemo township, Kalamazoo county, November 25, 1873, daughter of Edward Monroe and Mary Montague Merwin

Butler. Edward Monroe Butler, the father, was born in Richland, Michigan. Mrs. Myron H. Bell has three sisters: Mabel Frances Butler, who resides in Kalamazoo; Grace Merwin, who married A. C. Robinson, deceased, is the mother of three children and resides in Kalamazoo; Bernice Butler, a teacher in the public schools of Kalamazoo.

Death came to Mr. Bell January 31, 1939. The funeral was in charge of the Peninsular Commandery No. 8, and burial was in Riverside cemetery. The honorary pall bearers were Cornelius LaRoy, Miron D. Ellis, Walter Hamilton, Russell Venner, Leon Barrett, and Leonard Terry.

Written in 1940

Havilah S. Bender Jr.



H A V I L A H S B E N D E R

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Havilah S. Bender, Jr., was born in Kalamazoo, Michigan, July 25, 1921, son of Havilah S. Bender, Sr., and Ruth Margaret Ackley Bender, who resided on the Bender farm in Portage road, one mile south of Kalamazoo until 1931, when the family moved to Detroit, Michigan. The Benders also had a daughter Betty.

Havilah, Jr., attended school in Kalamazoo, Lansing and Detroit, then entered Howe Military Academy at Howe, Indiana, from which he was graduated in 1939. The following year he entered the University of Michigan.

In September 1941 Havilah, Jr., and his mother were each driving an automobile to San Diego, California, to join Mr. Bender, who had accepted a position in the national air defense program and where Havilah, Jr., had also planned to engage in defense work, having been actively interested in aviation.

Mrs. Bender was driving ahead of her son and reached Burlington, Iowa, at dinner time and waited for her son. When he had not arrived by ten P. M.

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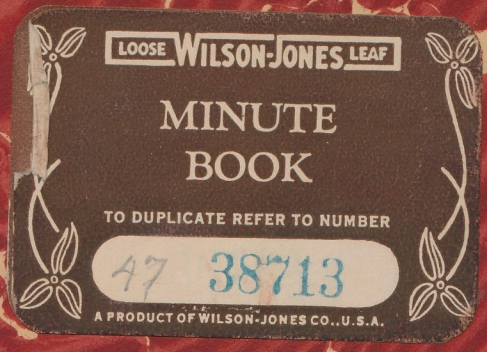
she notified the Iowa State police and was informed that the boy had met with an accident at Princeville, Illinois, when his automobile and a truck collided head on.

Havilah, Jr., was a man's man. He enjoyed bowling, golfing and fishing, and liked all kinds of games. He was fond of music and played in the Howe Military Band. He read good books and magazines and enjoyed driving and flying. He was a devoted son and grandson, his grandmother being Mrs. George B. Ackley, Sr., of Kalamazoo.

In personal appearance Havilah S. Bender, Jr., was six feet, one inch tall, slender and clean cut. This fine young man met death September 2, 1941, and the body was brought to Kalamazoo to the George P. Truesdale funeral home where services were conducted by an Episcopal clergyman from Howe Military Academy and burial was in Mt. Ever-Rest.

"To live in hearts we leave behind
Is not to die."

Written in 1942.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